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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/30/2003

Andrew R. Ferlitsch

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KIRTON & MCCONKIE

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EXAMINER

HUNTSINGER, PETER K

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/676,988	Applicant(s) FERLITSCH, ANDREW R.	
	Examiner Peter K. Huntsinger	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11, 23 and 30 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22, 24-29 and 31-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Species II in the reply filed on 2/15/08 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 11, 23 and 30 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected Species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 2/15/08.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities: In lines 1 and 2 of the claim, replace "locates" with "allows locating" or equivalent. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-9 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguchi '707 in view of applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177.

Referring to **claim 1**, Taniguchi '707 discloses in a printing system, a method for displaying print job information for selection on a printer prior to despooling the print jobs to the printer, the method comprising:

initiating a print job (S601 of Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 28-29, user generates print job);

preserving the print job on at least one of (i) a client computer device and (ii) a print server (S602 of Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 30-35, generated print jobs stored into auxiliary memory D1 of the computer);

storing job data, wherein the job data is associated with the print job and transmitting the job data to a printing device (S606 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 1-10, print job management data is sent to printer);

displaying at least a portion of the job data prior to despooling the print job to the printing device (S607 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 11-15, printer displays print job management data prior to unqueuing [despooling] print job);

despooling the print job to the printing device (col. 7, lines 34-39, printer pulls print job off of buffer); and

rendering the print job at the printing device (S612 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 34-39, printer executes printing).

Taniguchi '707 does not disclose expressly a front panel of a printer.

Applicant's background section discloses a front panel of a printer (page 3, lines 14-17, job data displayed on a menu from the front panel of printer).

At the time of the invention, it would have obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to display data on a front panel of a printer. The motivation for doing so would have been to utilize a convenient method of providing information to the user.

Taniguchi '707 does not disclose expressly storing and transmitting data with a print server.

Gase '177 discloses storing data on the print server and transmitting the data from the print server to a printing device (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 51-53, File server 16 enables clients to be connected to printers).

At the time of the invention, it would have obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to utilize a print server to route all data sent from the client computer to the printer. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide in a network that includes multiple printers and client computers central administration and updating of print data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177 with Taniguchi '707 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Referring to **claim 2**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the step for initiating the print job is performed at the client computer device, and wherein the print job is initiated without specifying the printing device (S601 of Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 28-29, user generates print job).

Referring to **claim 3**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the step for transmitting the job data to the printing device comprises:

querying queued print jobs (S605 of Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 61-67, user selects the computer at the printer); and

pulling the job data to the printing device as a result of the query performed (S606 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 1-10, print job management data transmitted in response to print inquiry).

Gase '177 discloses transmitting the data from the print server to a printing device (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 51-53, File server 16 enables clients to be connected to printers).

Referring to **claim 4**, Taniguchi '707 discloses receiving input that selects the job data and initiates the steps for despooling and rendering the print job (S608 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 16-19, user selects desired print job).

Referring to **claim 5**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the step for querying is based on at least one of:

- (i) jobs on a specific printer server;
- (ii) jobs from a specific client computer device;
- (iii) jobs initiated from a specific user;
- (iv) a specific print job; and
- (v) a specific printing characteristic (S605 of Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 61-67, user selects the computer at the printer).

Referring to **claim 6**, Gase '177 discloses wherein the printer server is not associated with any particular printing device (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 51-53, File server 16 enables clients to be connected to printers).

Referring to **claim 7**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the job data uniquely identifies and locates the print job, and wherein the job data includes at least one of:

- (i) a job name;
- (ii) a job identification;
- (iii) a client name; and
- (iv) a user name (print job management data of Fig. 2).

Referring to **claim 8**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the step for displaying at least a portion of the job data comprises one of:

displaying the at least a portion of the job data on a front panel of the printing device for selection by a user; and

remotely displaying the at least a portion of the job data on an interface for selection by a user (S607 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 11-15, printer displays print job management data prior to unqueuing [despooling] print job).

Referring to **claim 9**, Taniguchi '707 discloses at least one of:

updating a current status of the print job at the client computer device; and

updating the current status of the print job at the print server (S613 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 44-48, the computer subtracts from the value of the job reproduction number).

Referring to **claim 12**, Taniguchi '707 discloses transmitting updated status information from the printing device to at least one of (i) the print server and (ii) the client computer device server (S613 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 44-48, the computer subtracts from the value of the job reproduction number).

Referring to **claim 13**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the step for transmitting updated status information updates at least one of:

- (i) a status of the print job; and

(ii) a status of the job data (S613 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 44-48, the computer subtracts from the value of the job reproduction number).

Referring to **claim 14**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the updated status information includes at least one of:

(i) information indicating that the print job has been despoiled to the printing device; and

(ii) information that the print job has been rendered at the printing device (S613 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 44-48, the computer subtracts from the value of the job reproduction number).

Referring to **claim 15**, Taniguchi '707 discloses at least one of:

deleting the print job at the client computing device;

deleting the print job at the printer server; and

deleting the job data at the printer server (S615 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 49-52, job is deleted from computer 1).

6. Claims 10 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguchi '707, applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177, and further in view of well known prior art.

Referring to **claim 10**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the step for transmitting the job data to the printing device comprises:

querying queued print jobs (S605 of Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 61-67, user selects the computer at the printer); and

pulling the job data to the printing device as a result of the query performed (S606 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 1-10, print job management data transmitted in response to print inquiry).

Gase '177 discloses transmitting the data from the print server to a printing device (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 51-53, File server 16 enables clients to be connected to printers).

Taniguchi '707 and Gase '177 do not disclose expressly multiple print servers.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art for a printer to be connected to multiple print servers (See MPEP 2144.03). At the time of the invention, it would have obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to utilize multiple print servers in the system of Taniguchi '707. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide a more extensive network and increased capability by providing additional print servers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Taniguchi '707, applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10.

Referring to **claim 16**, Taniguchi '707 discloses the step for displaying at least a portion of the job data and the step for despoiling the print job to the printing device, but does not disclose expressly converting journalized print data into a printer ready format.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art for journalized print data to be converted into a printer ready format after it is removed from the queue (See MPEP 2144.03). The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the print data to the printer in a form it can process. Therefore, it

would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Taniguchi '707, applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 16.

Referring to **claim 17**, Taniguchi '707 discloses sending a print job to a printer, but does not disclose expressly converting the job into a format compatible with the printing device if it is a format non-compatible with the printer.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art a print job to be converted into a format compatible with the printer (See MPEP 2144.03). The motivation for doing so would have been to provide the print data to the printer in a form it can process. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Taniguchi '707, applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 17.

Referring to **claim 18**, Taniguchi '707 discloses sending a print job to a printer, but does not disclose expressly emulating capabilities incompatible with the printing device.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art a print job to emulate capabilities incompatible with the printing device (See MPEP 2144.03). The motivation for doing so would have been to allow providing capabilities on a printer that does not normally enable them. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Taniguchi '707, applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 18.

Referring to **claim 19**, Taniguchi '707 discloses sending a print job to a printer, but does not disclose expressly emulating capabilities incompatible with the printing device.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art a print job to emulate capabilities incompatible with the printing device including one of copy collation, booklet printing, and N-up printing (See MPEP 2144.03). The motivation for doing so would have been to allow providing these specific capabilities on a printer that does not normally enable them. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Taniguchi '707, applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 19.

7. Claims 20, 21, 24-28 and 31-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguchi '707 in view of Gase '177.

Referring to **claim 20**, Taniguchi '707 discloses an interactive printing system comprising:

a print job initiated at a client computing device and preserved at one of (i) the client computing device and (ii) a printer server (S601 of Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 28-29, user generates print job);

job data corresponding to the print job (S606 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 1-10, print job management data is sent to printer),

a network coupling the client computing device and a printing device (network N of Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 44-50); and

a display panel of the printing device that selectively displays at least a portion of the job data as a result of a queued print jobs query and prior to the print job being despoiled to the printing device for rendering the print job (S607 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 11-15, printer displays print job management data prior to unqueuing [despooling] print job).

Taniguchi '707 does not disclose expressly storing and transmitting data with a print server.

Gase '177 discloses storing data on the print server and transmitting the data from the print server to a printing device (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 51-53, File server 16 enables clients to be connected to printers).

At the time of the invention, it would have obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to utilize a print server to route all data sent from the client computer to the printer. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide in a network that includes multiple printers and client computers central administration and updating of print data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177 with Taniguchi '707 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 20.

Referring to **claim 21**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein printing device is configured to selectively initiate the queued print jobs query based on user input received (S608 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 16-19, user selects desired print job).

Referring to **claim 24**, see the rejection of claim 1 above.

Referring to **claim 25**, see the rejection of claim 2 above.

Referring to **claim 26**, see the rejection of claim 3 above.

Referring to **claim 27**, see the rejection of claim 4 above.

Referring to **claim 28**, see the rejection of claim 8 above.

Referring to **claim 31**, see the rejection of claim 12 above.

Referring to **claim 32**, see the rejection of claim 13 above.

Referring to **claim 33**, see the rejection of claim 14 above.

Referring to **claim 34**, see the rejection of claim 15 above.

8. Claim 22, 29 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguchi '707 and Gase '177, and further in view of well known prior art.

Referring to **claim 22**, Taniguchi '707 discloses wherein the step for transmitting the job data to the printing device comprises:

querying queued print jobs (S605 of Fig. 6, col. 6, lines 61-67, user selects the computer at the printer); and

pulling the job data to the printing device as a result of the query performed (S606 of Fig. 6, col. 7, lines 1-10, print job management data transmitted in response to print inquiry).

Gase '177 discloses transmitting the data from the print server to a printing device (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 51-53, File server 16 enables clients to be connected to printers).

Taniguchi '707 and Gase '177 do not disclose expressly additional print servers connected to the network.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art for a printer to be connected to multiple print servers (See MPEP 2144.03). At the time of the invention, it would have obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to utilize multiple print servers in the system of Taniguchi '707. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide a more extensive network and increased capability by providing additional print servers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Taniguchi '707, applicant's admitted prior art and Gase '177 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 22.

Referring to **claim 29**, see the rejection of claim 10 above.

Referring to **claim 35**, see the rejection of claim 17 above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter K. Huntsinger whose telephone number is (571)272-7435. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2625

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PKH

/Mark K Zimmerman/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625